

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application. We respectfully traverse the rejections presented in the final Office Action.

Claims 1, 5, 13, 19 and 20 are amended without prejudice and generally in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions¹ on page 10 of the final Office Action.

These minor changes are believed consistent with our previously-intended claim scope. Thus, we expect that the amended claims are still entitled to cover a wide range of equivalent arrangements.

For example – and with respect to claim 1 – we noted on page 6 of our March 7, 2006 Amendment: “But we do not read Kimura to teach detecting information carried by a first watermark and then using this detected information for embedding into a second digital watermark.” (emphasis added).

The application stands ready for allowance. In the meantime, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Date: June 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ “Further, the “message information” in the claimed language has not indication [sic] whether the “message information” is the decoded “message information” or just “message information” in the watermark before get [sic] decoded. Applicant needs to incorporate these points in the claim language.”